W1TK

The Spark Gap

MAY 1982

Book VII Vol V

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

Auction

by Nels Anderson, K1UR

Our 1982 spring auction was held on beautiful sunny Saturday, April 17, our usual site in the Wellesley High School cafeteria. Despite the weather, which should have kept many people outside instead of in a cafeteria, we had a pretty good turnout and enough equipment to sell that the auctioneers were kept going steady from the 11:00 am starting time until after 3:00 pm.

Our glorious leader, David Curry, K1TK, got initiated into the ranks of auctioneers when our main auctioneer, Rick Poole, WA1RKT, needed a break. David did a fine job considering he was not prepared when Rick handed him the microphone and told him to sell something. By the way, we would like to thank Rick for once again helping us out with the auction. His professional manner on the podium certainly helps make the day go smoothly.

We had one change this year in that we did not rent the serving area of the cafeteria to make hot dogs and such. Instead, we had sandwiches and da with the sandwiches being made by vid Curry, K1TK, and Nels Anderson, K1UR, including the speciality of the house, tuna, er, pilchard fish. This went very well as we eliminated an expense and made a good profit on everything we sold, and we sold everything we had.

The final tally sheet is not available yet as we are not sure what our final charge for the cafeteria will be (since it's based on the number of hours of use which has to be determined by the school department). It would seem, however, because of the increased charge for the building that we will do little better than break even this year. Thus, it would seem that in the future it will be necessary to re-examine our fund raising activities. Perhaps a change of site would help or we may have to go to a flea market like it seems everyone else has. Should be plenty of discussion on this subject in the future.

Many people were involved in making the operation go and they all deserve our thanks. We would also like to thank Tufts Radio, You-Do-It Electronics, Heathkit, and Johnson Associates for their donations of the door prize and raffle prizes. □

Hearabouts....

The speaker at our May 20 meeting will be Mort Cohan, KA1IU on the subject of how to match anything to your rig (the mysteries of Smith charts). If you've ever wondered how to use these funny round pieces of graph paper here's your chance. As usual, the meeting will start at 7:30 pm. Hope to see you there. □

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The election of officers for the 1982/83 club year will also be held at the May 20 meeting. The slate of candidates is enclosed in this issue for those of you who would like to vote by mail. Get your ballot into the club by May 20. □

MEETINGS THIS MONTH:

May 6, 1982, at 7:30 pm
May 20, 1982, at 7:30 pm
Intermediate Bldg., Wellesley Hills, Mass.

STATION ACTIVITIES

Under the direction of Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, W.A.R.S. once again aided the Newton-Wellesley Hospital with transportation of personnel on April 6. This is the second time this winter that a severe snow storm has brought a request for aid from the hospital and once again we were able to come through and meet their needs. Some 60 hospital staff members were provided transportation with the operation going on from around 11:00 am until 2:00 am the next morning. Participants in addition to WA1ZLQ were C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM; David Curry, K1TK; Chad Johnson, N1ABZ; and Bill Downing, WA1PQY. By the way, if you're looking for someone to blame for this very late winter storm, try K1TK. David was wishing for something like this ever since he got his new four-wheel drive Toyota Land Cruiser in March. □

OFFICIAL BULLETIN

Number 32, dated April 8, 1982:

At an Open Agenda meeting on April 1, 1982, the FCC eliminated two sections of the Amateur Regulations, as part of an ongoing review of rules to prune out those which are no longer necessary. Section 97.71 required an adequately filtered DC plate power supply for transmitters operating below 144 MHz. Section 97.74 required a means of measuring frequency independant of the transmitter itself. Cancellation of these two rules represents a change in regulatory philosophy from how to observe the rules to what the result should be. Other rules still in place require that an Amateur signal be clean and that it be in band. The same meeting adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking which would provide new frequencies for model control in the 72 to 76 MHz range. □

Crossbander

In several towns hams serve on cable television advisory committees. In Whitman, Robert Burns, K1RB, is one of five individuals serving on his town's committee. Burns--like Jack Klobuchar of Lincoln--wants the Whitman committee to prohibit future cable operations on police, fire and Amateur frequencies. He also wants to hear from other hams serving on advisory committees. "With Massachusetts having its own regulations and procedures...it isn't easy to discuss what (members in other towns) are doing relative to applications."

Crossbander, April 15, 1982

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Children at the Massachusetts Hospital School in Canton may soon be enjoying Amateur Radio, thanks to the efforts of the Sharon Amateur Radio Association. Club members WA1ZQT, KA1EKE, N1AVW, WA1WUV and others are instructing seven physically handicapped residents in preparation for No ice examinations. Club president Stanley Goldstone, W1TEA, said that instruction is "tailored" so students can learn at an individual pace. A group of SARA members are also involved with helping the hospital repair its closed-circuit television equipment.

Crossbander, April 15, 1982□

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:
David Curry, K1TK, 237-2450
VICE PRESIDENT:

TREASURER:
C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, 332-6091
RECORDING SECRETARY:
Nels Anderson, K1UR, 323-5029
FUND RAISING:
Kevin Kelly, WA1YHV, 242-0341
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:
David Kent, N2AWG, 756-5325

The Spark Gap

Official Journal of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:
NELS J. ANDERSON, K1UR
32 WESTGATE ROAD, APT. 6
CHESTNUT HILL, MASS. 02167
323-5029

THE "SPARK GAP" IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY. ITS PRIMARY PURPOSE IS TO KEEP ITS MEMBERS ABREAST OF CURRENT HAPPENINGS, F.C.C. RULES & REGULATIONS CHANGES, AND TO LIST EQUIPMENT OFFERED FOR SALE OR TRADE BY MEMBERS. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE "SPARK GAP" AND MAY SENT THEIR ARTICLES (TYPEWRITTEN IF POSSIBLE) TO THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OR TO THE CLUB ADDRESS.

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE PROMOTION OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH INSTRUCTION, FELLOWSHIP, DEMONSTRATION, AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF PARTICIPATION. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SOCIETY IS $8. THE CLUB YEAR RUNS SEPTEMBER 1 TO AUGUST 31. AMATEUR NOVICE AND GENERAL CLASSES ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY AT NO COST. TO ENROLL IN A CLASS, OR GAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE SOCIETY IN GENERAL, WRITE:

THE WELLESLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
324 WASHINGTON STREET
WELLESLEY HILLS, MASS. 02181

Minutes

Meeting of April 1, 1982:

The meeting was opened at 7:46 pm by President David Curry, K1TK, with 11 present.

The Secretary's report was read.

The Treasurer's report was read. One major expenditure this month was the antenna for the repeater. We have received four additional membership renewals from the reminder letters that were recently sent out.

The Novice class has begun and has two instructors, Art Thompson, KA1ENP, and Kenneth McNair, KA1ACX.

At present, the only Field Day site that seems to be available is a field in New Hampshire owned by Larry and Madeline Hines. This site will be instigated.

The school department was unwilling to lower any of the fees on the auction but we will cut the hours and eliminate the use of the cafeteria serving area.

The Newton-Wellesley Hospital is supposed to decide if and when they are going to put up our antenna next week.

The Boston Marathon operation has enough operators signed up already. There will be some new procedures in effect. More people are needed for several public service events taking place on May 2.

The town of Wellesley has given the Intermediate Building a one year reprieve, so we may not yet have to look for a new club room.

Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, announced that he was resigning the post of Vice President effective April 20.

The meeting was closed at 8:49 pm.

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Meeting of April 15, 1982:

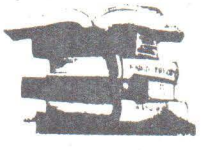
The meeting was opened at 7:50 pm by President David Curry, K1TK.

The final preparations for the auction were discussed. Everything is now ready to go.

Most of the meeting was devoted to instructions by Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, for those who would be operating during the Boston Marathon. Complete instructions for all were given out as well as booklets with permanent copies of details and forms necessary on race day.

The meeting was closed at 9:15 pm.□

education corner



A new Novice Class was started the last week of March with Art Thompson, KA1ENP, again acting as instructor, this time with the help of Kenneth McNair, KA1ACX. The class is being held at the club on Tuesday nights, starting at 7:00 pm and will run at least 14 weeks. The first night saw nine prospective Novice in attendance. Good luck to all! □

Boston Marathon

by Nels Anderson, K1UR

The 86th running of the BAA Boston Marathon on April 19, 1982, was aided by the radio communications provided by the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society. Despite a number of changes, some of which came right at the last minute, we were once again able to provide everything the Boston Athletic Association needed to make the race go smoothly.

Some thirty hams under the direction of Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, were involved in this year's operation. They were stationed along the entire route from the starter's platform to the finish line including all the traditional checkpoints as well as the five mile checkpoints and on the press buses, photo truck, pace car, and of course at the net control station on the 20th floor of the Prudential building near the finish line.

As in the past, most communications involved keeping the BAA officials abreast of the race's progress along the 26 mile 385 yard course. This required for the most part taking the official checkpoint time and lead runners' numbers from WA1ZLQ in the pace car and integrating that with the official list of 100 lead runners provided by the checkpoint officials. Several medical inquiries were also handled and refered to the Red Cross for final solution.

This kind of operation requires quite a bit of preparation, of course. For this we can thank Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ, who has been attending BAA meetings for several months to integrate their needs with our abilities. Even when they decided to add the traditional checkpoints back in less than a week before the race, Dick managed to handle this and all other problems and make the Amateur Radio portion of the marathon run smoothly.

Not that the race went without any hitchs, however. Two vans that were supposed to carry the press (as well as two radio operators) did not show up at the appointed time and place. One did finally show up only 15 minutes before the start and in the path of the race instead of off to the si where it should have been. We never did find the other one although it was allegedly somewhere in Hopkinton. All this meant that Scott Nacey, WA1YOJ, and Nels Anderson, K1UR, who were assigned to these vans, ended up doing a lot of running around through the crowds just before the race.

As an experiment this year we tried using the club's 450 MHz repeater for communications around the finish line and in the Prudential building where 2 meters does not cover very well. For those of you who don't recall, this is the repeater that was donated to us by Motorola some time ago and has been running out in Worcester for quite a while and has been linked to 63/03 several times. It was once again linked to 63/03 so that all the traffic going over this repeater, which was our primary one, could be heard in and around the Prudential building even where 63/03 doesn't cover. Despite some technical problems when t repeater was set up the day before race, it worked quite well when it was needed and the experiment proved that 450 MHz could be used quite successfully to cover within the building. For those of you who are wondering, the machine was set up in the Gillette Company cafeteria in a window on the 49th floor.

So ends another year's participation in the area's biggest athletic event, this year with some 7600 official participants and with perfect weather for spectators probably one million people lining the course. With the many questions about the changes being made in the marathon next year when it becomes more commercial, it's hard to say if our role will stay the same as it has been during our five years of participation.

The following list of participants hopefully is accurate although with the large number involved there is always the chance of error: Bob Rudko, W1HSS; Bill Downing, WA1PQY,

C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM, Scott Nacey, WA1YOJ; Nels Anderson, K1UR; Jon Kanter, AF1M; Bill Hanlon, N1ADY; Dick Paret, WA1ZLQ; Vern Robertson, 1EGE; Frank Jasinski, W1XA; Jim Fatherley, WA1TBY; Greg Livingston, WB2EHV; Skid Schermerhorn, W1TTY; Bill Tomlinson, WB1DJM; Dave Longendorfer, KA1FUJ; Art Swanson, KA1FCP; Martin St. George, KA1BJY; Kevin Kelly, WA1YHV; Ed Parsons, K1TR; Mort Cohan, KA1IU; David Curry, K1TK; Dave Kent, N2AWG; Marc Hebert, WB1EDF; Cindy Widmer, N1BXD; and Chad Johnson, N1ABZ. □

Auctions/Flea Markets

May 1: QRA Flea Market, to be held at the South Hall Fire Station, corner of alem and Summer Streets, Lynnfield, ass. Admission is $1.00 for buyers, $7.00 for sellers at the door. Talk-in on 146.19/79 and 146.52.

May 2: P.V.R.A. flea market, George Penny High School, Forbs Street, East Hartford, Conn. Doors open from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Tables $8.50, general admission $1.00.

May 2; New England Amateur Television Group (NEAT) flea market to be held at Freeport Hall parking lot, Dorchester. Gates open at 7:00 am for sellers and 8:00 am for buyers. Admission is $1.00 for buyers and $5.00 for sellers. Talk in on 144.69/145.29 and 146.52.

May 8: 9th annual Hoss Traders tailgate swapfest, Deerfield Fair Grounds, Deerfield, N.H. $1.00 admission for everyone. Talk-in on 146.40/147.00 and 146.52.

May 15: 76 Flea Market and auction, at Steeres Beach Club, Waterman Lake, Greenville, R.I. Flea market from 9:00 am to noon, auction from noon on.

May 16: Eastern Mass. A.R.A. flea market, Webster, Mass. □

CROSSBANDER

We were not the only group of hams participating in the Boston Marathon on April 19. There were four other separately coordinated groups operating along the course. In the town of Hopkinton, a group helped coordinate the many activities around the starting line. Along the route groups provided communications assistance for the Framingham Red Cross, Newton Auxiliary Police, and Boston Red Cross. All in all, a very busy day for Amateur Radio in Eastern Massachusetts.

Crossbander, April 15, 1982

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Proposed regulations in Massachusetts governing RF fields are being closely monitored by ARRL. The Commonwealth's Department of Public Health is currently soliciting comments on proposed rules 105 CMR 122.000 to govern machines which generate electromagnetic fields from 300 kHz to 100 GHz. The League first learned of the proposed regulations when it received a letter from Robert T. Watkins, a radiation scientist with the Department of Public Health. Due to the lack of federal standards, it is believed that other states will follow suit with similar regulations.

Even though Amateur Radio transmitters will be exempted from the proposed regulations, the League submitted comments on March 10, 1982 to help further the department's understanding of the Amateur Radio Service and to support their finding that Amateur transmitters should be exempted. Citing work done by the League's Committee on the Biological Effects of RF Energy, ARRL concluded that the intermittent operation of Amateur transmitters, combined with relative low power levels meant that RF energy generated by Amateur stations was small compared with other services.

Crossbander, April 15, 1982□

Wonder Abouts...

--from PARC (Portsmouth ARC) via ARNS

Do not ride in an automobile; they cause 20% of all fatal accidents.

Do not stay at home because 17% of all accidents happen in the home.

Do not walk around on the street; 14% of all accidents happen to pedestrians.

Do not travel by air, rail, or boat; 16% of all accidents are the result of these activities.

Only .001% of all accidents occur at Amateur Radio club meetings.

Obviously the safest place to be on the first and third Thursdays of each month is at the W.A.R.S. meeting. □

THE WESTLINK REPORT
THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLETTER

The FCC requests radio Amateurs develop a new system of measuring power levels in terms of "output power." The Commission would prefer that such a system of measurement come from Amateurs rather than having to dictate one. They consider the current method of power computation in the Amateur Service "outmoded" and in need of revision, and strongly hint that if hams do not come up with a better way, the FCC may do it themselves in the near future.

Westlink Report, March 26, 1982

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The FCC will not be relocating across the Potomic to Virginia. Late word is that they will be remaining in the Washington, D.C. area but will have to find new headquarters for some operations in one of the buildings they now occupy since a lease renewal is not available. The building at 2025 M Street served for years as the home of most FCC operating Bureaus.

Westlink Report, March 26, 1982

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Following the successful launch of the UoSAT (OSCAR 9), AMSAT UK reports that its membership jumped past the 1000 mark, with an additional 2000 inquiries for technical data on the UoSAT being received by the group in the weeks immediately following the launch. AMSAT UK is rather dissappointed in the news media, however. The British press has taken to calling the UoSAT the "School Satellite" even though the British school system did not contribute in any way towards the construction or launch of the satellite. Thanks K6PGX and G3VA.

Westlink Report, March 26, 1982

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The FCC will not be allocating any of the new WARC bands in the near future. The Commission has dismissed all pending petitions aimed at launching U.S. Amateur operation in that spectrum, stating all such requests are "premature," since Congress has not yet ratified the WARC '79 treaty. It is unknown when Congress will act on this pending legislation, but until it does, there is little hope of U.S. hams getting privileges on the new WARC bands.

It has been widely reported that countries other than the U.S. are now active on the 10.1 to 10.15 MHz band, but what has been more or less ignored is the fact that some nations have instituted ham operations on the other two new HF bands as well. Countries known to have authorized Amateur operations on the 18 and 24 MHz bands include: Austria, Norway, Denmark and the Federal Republic of Germany. All permit cw only, and power limits vary between 100 and 200 watts. Thanks DJØQN.

Westlink Report, March 26, 1982□

EVENTS

The Eighth annual Eastern VHF/UHF Conference will be held on May 14-16 at the Sheraton Inn, Boxboro, Mass. Technical talks by well known VHFers, "rap sessions" for the various bands, a banquet and much more are planned. Registration before May 10 is $13.50, and $20.00 at the door. To register or for information, write Rick Commo, K1LOG, 3 Pryor Road, Natick, Mass. 01760. □

BALLOT

This ballot provides for voting for club officers for the club year September 1, 1982 through August 31, 1983.

It is certified that the following persons have been nominated for the office shown and that each person has accepted the nomination and will serve if elected.

Please vote for only one candidate for each office by putting an "X" in the space before that person's name.

If this ballot is to be mailed as an absentee ballot, please date and sign the envelope. Please do not sign this ballot to preserve the secrecy of your vote.

PRESIDENT:	___	David Curry, K1TK
VICE PRESIDENT:	___	Roger Smith, W1EOA
RECORDING SECRETARY:	___	Nels Anderson, K1UR
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:	___	Skid Schermerhorn, W1TTY
TREASURER:	___	C.J. McDonald, WB1BUM
FUND RAISING:	___	Kevin Kelly, WA1YHV
OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	___	David Kent, N2AWG
	___	Erik Thoresen, K1OGF

Mailed ballots must be <u>received</u> at the club by May 21 to be counted! Don't be late.

The Spark Gap

WELLESLEY
AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY

324 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts 02181

FIRST CLASS MAIL